

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

For Week Ending July 8, 1990

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Phone: (402) 437-5541

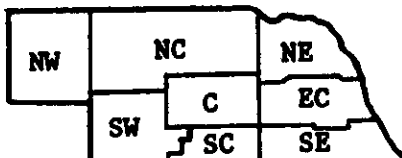
Location: 273 Federal Bldg.

NEBRASKA



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National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
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WEATHER

Temperatures averaged from four degrees above normal in the northwest to six to eight degrees above normal over the remainder of the State. Precipitation occurred the latter half of the week with amounts ranging from zero to traces up to 1.55 inches at Grand Island.

GENERAL

Hot, dry, windy conditions early in the week allowed producers to swing into high gear on the wheat harvest, but stressed row crops and pastures, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Slightly cooler and wet conditions toward the end of the week brought some relief to heat-stressed crops and livestock. Wheat harvest was nearing completion across the southern third of the State. Although some shriveled and cracked grain has been reported, yields have been generally good. The high temperatures and dry winds have stressed crops and irrigation systems across the entire State, especially in western and southern districts. Some serious concerns were expressed over supplies of water from the Platte River. Insects continue to be a problem, with heavy chinch bug activities reported in the Southeast and Eastern Districts. Corn borers are active in the eastern third of the State. Pastures are starting to dry up across the State with the best conditions still reported in the East and Northeast. Some heat-related livestock deaths were reported. Field activities include cultivating row crops, irrigating, insect control, small grain harvesting, and hay harvesting. An average of 6.6 days were suitable for fieldwork.

Topsoil moisture was 59% short, 37% adequate, and 4% surplus. Subsoil moisture was 48% short and 52% adequate. Last year, topsoil moisture was 66% short and 34% adequate, while subsoil moisture was 85% short and 15% adequate.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 3% poor, 43% fair, 49% good, and 5% excellent. The crop is 100% turning color and 80% ripe. The percent harvested jumped to 55%. Last year, 99% was turning color, 65% ripe, and 35% harvested. The five-year average is 100% turning color, 78% ripe, and 54% harvested. Heat and drying winds have raised concern about yield and reduced test weights in the Panhandle. Test weights in areas harvested have been generally good.

Oats harvest was 5% complete compared to 27% last year and 26% average. Most of the acreage harvested at this time is for forage. Concerns were expressed over possible light test weights due to the heat and dryness.

Corn condition rated 19% fair, 71% good, and 10% excellent. Corn silked was 1% compared to 4% last year and 13% average. Corn borers were of continued concern in the eastern third of the State.

Sorghum condition rated 42% fair, 57% good, and 1% excellent. Producers continue to battle chinch bug infestations.

Soybean condition rated 23% fair, 69% good, and 8% excellent. The crop was 2% in bloom compared to 12% last year and 26% average. Some corn acreage was lost to flooding two weeks ago and has been replanted to soybeans.

Alfalfa condition rated 9% poor, 36% fair, 41% good, and 14% excellent. Second cutting harvest was 25% complete compared to 32% last year and 41% average. The hot weather was stressing the crop and lowering yields.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range conditions rated 12% poor, 45% fair, 38% good, and 5% excellent. Pastures were browning and showing signs of stress across the State. Fly problems were reported on livestock in the East. More moisture will be needed to restore pastures.

Precipitation, April 1 - July 6, 1990

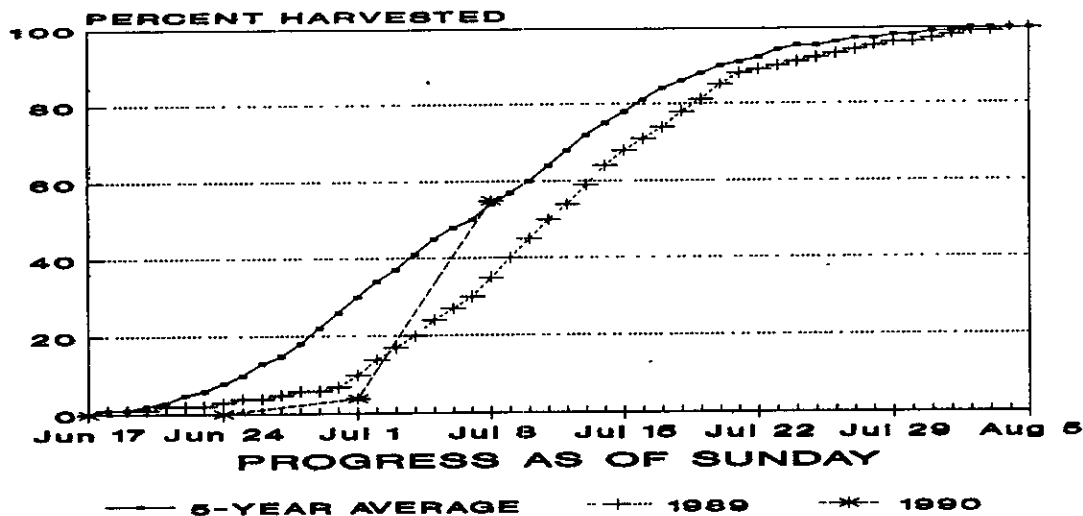
	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week22	.14	.00	.10	.47	.05	.11	.69
Total since April 1	5.65	9.30	12.06	9.79	10.09	6.58	8.37	11.80
Normal since April 1	8.33	9.70	11.13	10.49	11.71	8.82	10.45	11.87
Total as % of Normal	68%	96%	108%	93%	86%	75%	80%	99%

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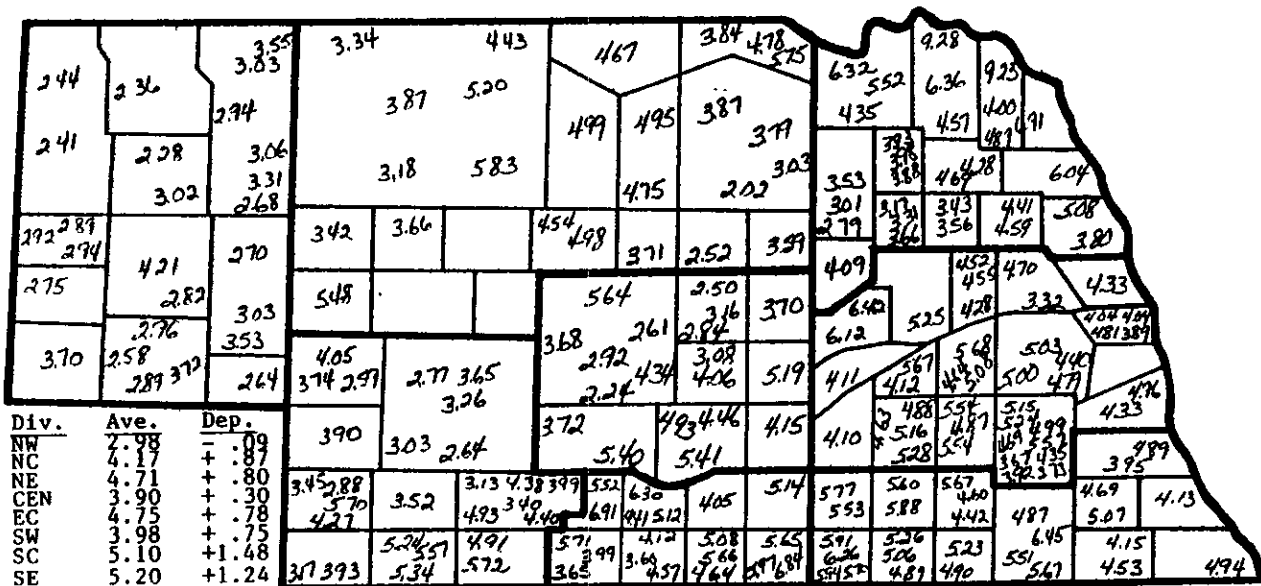
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NEBRASKA--WHEAT HARVESTED

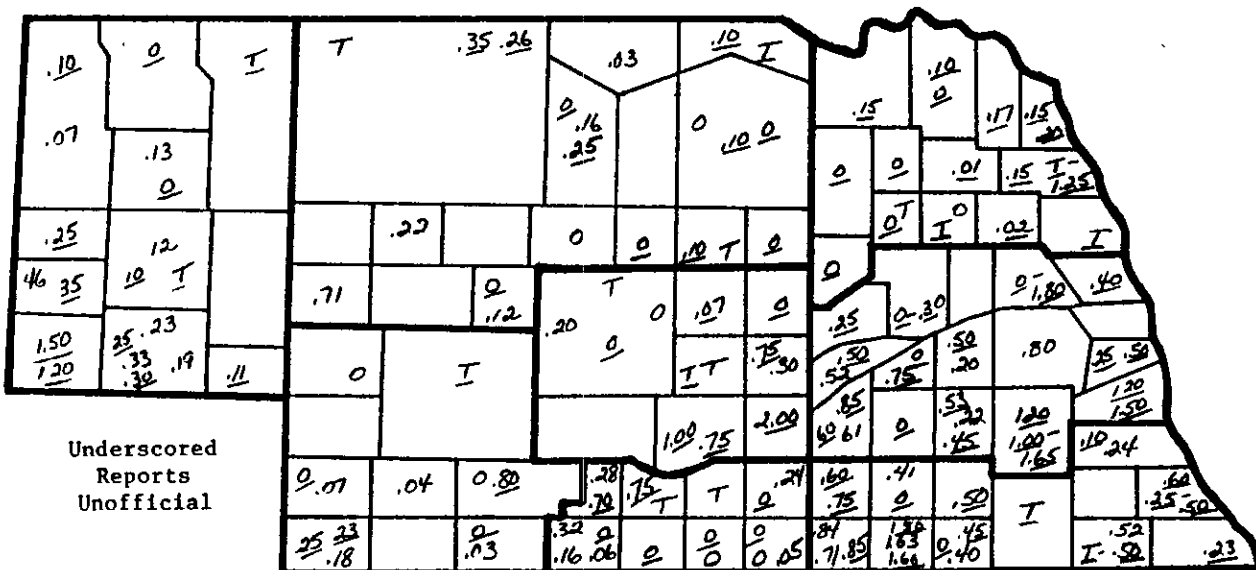


PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF MAY 1990 1/



1/ Courtesy of the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, JULY 6, 1990



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JULY 8, 1990

Station		Temperature			Precipitation
		Extremes		Departure	Total Inches 1/
		Max	Min		
NW	Chadron	110	63	80	0
	Scottsbluff	108	59	77	.45
	Sidney	106	61	78	.27
NC	Ord	107	60	79	0
	Valentine	104	52	79	.71
NE	Norfolk	104	61	81	.02
	Sioux City	104	62	81	.20
CEN	Grand Island	106	63	82	1.55
EC	Lincoln	108	66	85	.20
	Omaha	104	65	82	.40
SW	Imperial	104	62	80	.05
	North Platte	108	59	80	.20

1/ Precipitation totals not include map above.